

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/058,749

Examiner

Jerome Grant II

Applicant(s)

WATANABE ET AL.

Art Unit

2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to an amendment received 2-27-07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3,6-18,21-32 and 34-36.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

J. Grant II

JEROME GRANT
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Reasons for Allowance

Certain claims have been amended to include limitations previously indicated as containing allowable matter as referred to in the office action of 11-27-2006.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jerome Grant II whose telephone number is 571-272-7463. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Thurs from 9:00 to 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Coles, can be reached on 571-272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JEROME GRANT
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Examiner's Amendment

The interlineations or cancellations made in the specification or amendments to the claims could lead to confusion and mistake during the issue and printing processes. Accordingly, the portion of the specification or claims as identified below is required to be rewritten before passing the case to issue. See 37 CFR 1.125 and MPEP § 608.01(q).

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Frank Cire on March 27, 2007.

In the claims:

1. (Amended by the Examiner) A printing system, which continuously performs printing on a plurality of sheets based on print setting information including, at the least, information for designating an image to be printed, comprising:

an input unit adapted to enter image data that are to be printed;

a printing unit adapted to print said image data entered by said input unit ;

a storage unit adapted to, when printing based on said print setting information is interrupted due to reduction of a power capacity to a predetermined voltage or lower, store interrupt information concerning the printing completed before the interrupt; and

a control unit adapted to employ said interrupt information stored in said storage unit to resume printing based on said print setting information.

2. (Previously presented) A printing system according to claim 1, wherein said input unit enters image data from an external digital camera.

Art Unit: 2625

3. (Original) A printing system according to claim 1, wherein said print setting information includes a job for printing a plurality of image types.

4. and 5. (Canceled)

6. (Previously presented) A printing system according to claim 1, wherein said printing unit is battery-operated.

7. (Original) A printing system according to claim 2, wherein said interrupt information is recorded in a non-volatile memory provided for said digital camera.

8. (Previously amended) A printing system according to claim 1, wherein said control unit includes an examining unit adapted to examine whether said print setting information has been changed before and after said interrupt.

9. (Previously presented) A printing system according to claim 8, wherein, when said examining unit ascertains that said print setting information has been changed, said control unit does not resume printing based on said interrupt information.

Art Unit: 2625

10. (Previously amended) A printing system according to claim 1, wherein said interrupt information is updated each time an image is printed on one sheet, and the updated information is recorded in said storage unit.

11. (Previously amended) A printing system according to claim 1, which is connected to said digital camera via a connection cable having a power feed line, wherein said printing unit receives power from the power source of said digital camera along said connection cable.

12. (Previously amended) A printing system according to claim 1, wherein said control unit includes a determining unit adapted to determine whether said memory card has been replaced before and after said interrupt.

13. (Previously amended) A printing system according to claim 12, wherein, when said determining unit determines that said memory card has been replaced, printing is not resumed based on said interrupt information.

14. (Original) A printing system according to claim 12, wherein the replacement of said memory card includes a case where information stored on said memory card has been changed.

15. (Previously amended) A printing system according to claim 1, wherein, when printing is halted by said printing unit while an image is currently being output on one sheet of recording paper, said recording sheet on which printing is incomplete is discharged.

16. (Amended by the Examiner) A printing method, for continuously performing printing on a plurality of sheets based on print setting information including, at the least, information for designating an image to be printed, comprising:

an input step of entering image data that are to be printed;

a printing step of printing said image data entered in said input step;

a storage step of, when printing based on said print setting information is interrupted due to reduction of a power capacity to a predetermined voltage or lower, storing interrupt information concerning the printing completed before the interrupt; and

a control step of employing said interrupt information stored in said storage step to resume printing based on said print setting information.

17. (Original) A printing method according to claim 16, wherein, at said input step, image data is entered from an external digital camera.

18. (Original) A printing method according to claim 16, wherein said print setting information includes a job for printing a plurality of image types.

19. and 20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously presented) A printing method according to claim 16, wherein said printing step is performed by a battery-operated printer.

22. (Original) A printing method according to claim 17, wherein said interrupt information is recorded in a non-volatile memory provided for said digital camera.

23. (Previously presented) A printing method according to claim 16, wherein said control step includes an examining step of examining whether said print setting information has been changed before and after said interrupt.

24. (Previously presented) A printing method according to claim 23, wherein, when it is ascertained in said examining step that said print setting information has been changed, in said control step, printing based on said interrupt information is not resume

25. (Previously presented) A printing method according to claim 16, wherein said interrupt information is updated each time an image is printed on one sheet, and the updated information is recorded in said storage step.

26. (Previously presented) A printing method according to claim 16, wherein said control step includes a determining step of determining whether said memory card has been replaced before and after said interrupt.

27. (Previously presented) A printing method according to claim 26, wherein, when it is ascertained in said determining step that said memory card has been replaced, printing is not resumed based on said interrupt information.

28. (Original) A printing method according to claim 26, wherein the replacement of said memory card includes a case where information stored on said memory card has been changed.

29. (Previously presented) A printing method according to claim 16, wherein, when printing is halted in said printing step while an image is currently being output on one sheet of recording paper, said recording sheet on which printing is incomplete is discharged.

Art Unit: 2625

30. (Amended by the Examiner) A digital camera, which continuously performs printing on a plurality of sheets based on print setting information including, at the least, information for designating an image to be printed, comprising:

- an image pickup unit;

- an input unit adapted to enter said print setting information;

- an output unit adapted to output image data to a printer based on said print setting information;

- a first storage unit adapted to store said image data;

- a second storage unit adapted to, when printing based on said print setting information is interrupted due to reduction of a power capacity to a predetermined voltage or lower, storing interrupt information concerning the printing completed before the interrupt; and

- a control unit adapted to employ said interrupt information stored in said second storage unit to resume printing based on said print setting information.

31. (Original) A digital camera according to claim 30, with which said printer is integrally formed.

32. (Original) A digital camera according to claim 30, which is battery-operated.

33. (Canceled)

34. (Amended by the Examiner) A storage medium on which stored is a computer-readable program for continuously performing printing on a plurality of sheets based on print setting information including, at the least, information for designating an image to be printed, said computer-readable program comprising:

- an input step of entering image data that are to be printed;

- a printing step of printing said image data entered in said input step;

- a storage step of, when printing based on said print setting information is interrupted due to reduction of a power capacity to a predetermined voltage or lower, storing interrupt information concerning the printing completed before the interrupt; and

- a control step of employing said interrupt information stored in said storage step to resume printing based on said print setting information.

35. (Amended by the Examiner) Computer-executable program instructions stored on a computer-readable storage medium, for causing a computer to execute a printing method for continuously performing printing on a plurality of sheets based on print setting information including, at the least, information for designating an image to be printed, comprising:

- an input step of entering image data that are to be printed;

- a printing step of printing said image data entered in said input step;

- a storage step of, when printing based on said print setting information is interrupted due to reduction of a power capacity to a predetermined voltage or lower, storing interrupt information concerning the printing completed before the interrupt; and

- a control step of employing said interrupt information stored in said storage step to resume printing based on said print setting information.

36. (Amended by the Examiner) A print control apparatus, for controlling a printer in order to continuously output an image on a plurality of sheets based on print setting information including, at the least, information for designating an image to be printed, comprising:

- an output unit adapted to output image data to a printer based on said print setting information;

- a storage control unit adapted to, when printing based on said print setting information is interrupted due to reduction of a power capacity to a predetermined voltage or lower, store, in a memory, interrupt information concerning the printing completed before the interrupt; and


- a control unit adapted to employ said interrupt information stored by said storage control unit to resume printing based on said print setting information.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jerome Grant II whose telephone number is 571-272-7463. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Thurs from 9:00 to 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Coles, can be reached on 571-272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

J. Grant II



JEROME GRANT
PRIMARY EXAMINER